

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1 – 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): A composition for protecting mammalian skin from discoloration or harmful effects of tyrosinase or chemically induced irritation other than UV radiation consisting essentially of an effective amount of up to about 5% by weight of the a root extract of Kaempferia Galanga.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A composition according to claim 11 containing from about 0.1 up to about 5.0 weight percent of the root extract of Kaempferia Galanga.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A composition according to claim 11 containing from about 0.2 up to about 1.0 weight percent of the root extract of Kaempferia Galanga.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A composition according to claim 11 in which said root extract of Kaempferia Galanga comprises ethyl p-methoxycinnamate.

Claims 15 (currently amended): A composition according to claim 11 for protecting mammalian skin from at least one of: harmful effects of tyrosinase, harmful effects of chemically induced irritation other than UV radiation, or discoloration.

Claims 16 -18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): A composition according to claim 11 in which said root extract is dispersed in a carrier which is selected from the group consisting of nontoxic, nonirritating, or cosmetically acceptable.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A composition according to claim 11 in which said root extract is dispersed in a carrier which is selected from the group consisting of an emulsion, an anhydrous solvent, or a single phase system.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A composition for protecting mammalian skin from discoloration or the harmful effects of tyrosinase or chemically induced irritation other than UV radiation comprising a preparation containing, in weight percent, an effective amount up to about 5 percent of a root extract of Kaempferia Galanga dispersed in a carrier.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 21 in which said root extract of Kaempferia Galanga comprises ethyl p-methoxycinnamate.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 21 containing from about 0.1% up to about 5.0% of the root extract of Kaempferia Galanga (wt/wt).

Claim 24 (currently amended): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 21 containing from about 0.2% up to about 1.0% of the root extract of Kaempferia Galanga (wt/wt).

Claim 25 (currently amended): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 21 in which said carrier is selected from the group consisting of ~~antotoxic, nonirritating, or cosmetically acceptable or~~ of an emulsion, an anhydrous solvent, or a single phase system.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A composition for protecting mammalian skin from discoloration or the harmful effects of tyrosinase or chemically induced irritation other than UV radiation comprising a preparation containing, in weight percent, an effective amount up to about 5 percent of ethyl p-methoxycinnamate dispersed in a carrier, wherein the ethyl p-methoxycinnamate is extracted from Kaempferia Galanga root.

Claim 27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (previously presented): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 26 containing from about 0.1% up to about 5.0% of ethyl p-methoxycinnamate (wt/wt).

Claim 29 (previously presented): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 26 containing from about 0.2% up to about 1.0% of ethyl p-methoxycinnamate (wt/wt).

Claim 30 (currently amended): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 26 in which said carrier is selected from the group consisting of ~~nontoxic, nonirritating, or cosmetically acceptable~~ or an emulsion, an anhydrous solvent, or a single phase system.

Claim 31 (new): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 21 in which said carrier is selected from the group consisting of nontoxic, nonirritating, or cosmetically acceptable.

Claim 32 (new): A composition for protecting mammalian skin according to claim 26 in which said carrier is selected from the group consisting of nontoxic, nonirritating, or cosmetically acceptable.